Long-term Grain Export Policy

4555. SHRI YADLAPATI VENKAT RAO:
SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has evolved a long-term Grain Export Policy;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this policy has been implemented; and

(d) if not, by when it would be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AN"'* PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) to (d) in \"'^w of the huge buffer stock available in the country, India has e^{1} $3i_{b}$jd as a prominent exporter of foodgrains. The quantitative restrictions on export of foodgrains from the Central Pool have been removed subject to the condition that the stocks in the Central Pool will not be lower than the buffer stock of 243 lakh MTs (100 lakh MTs of rice and 143 lakh MTs of wheat) at any point of time. A series of measures have been taken to promote exports. The problems on this front are being constantly monitored and appropriate solutions evolved.

Foodgrains distributed free of cost

†4556. SHRI MANOHAR KANT DHYANI: Will tthe Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 1857 given in the Rajya Sabha on 6th December, 2001 and state:

(a) the details of the foodgrains distributed free of cost as per order of his Ministry;

(b) the number of districts where these foodgrains were distributed alongwith, the number of its beneficiaries and also the minimum and maximum quantity of foodgrains distributed to a person or a family as rice, wheat or flour; and

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.